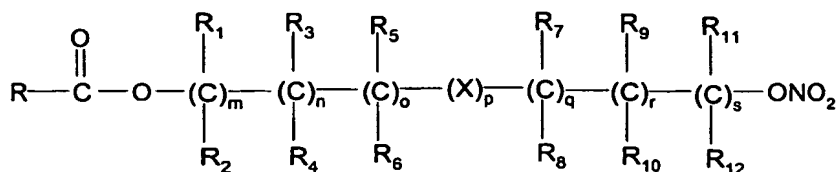


CLAIMS

1. A process for preparing a compound of general formula (A)



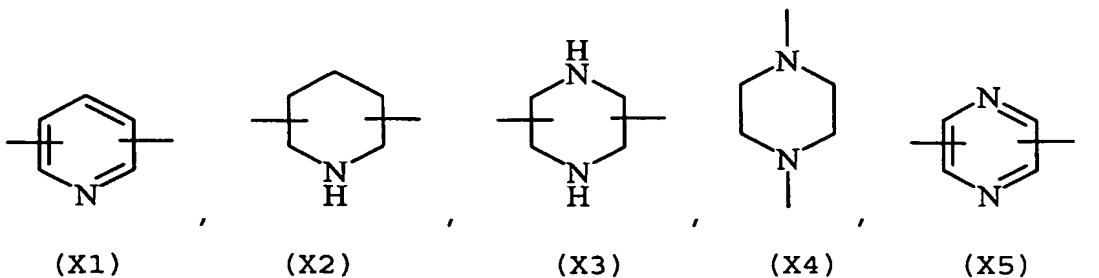
(A)

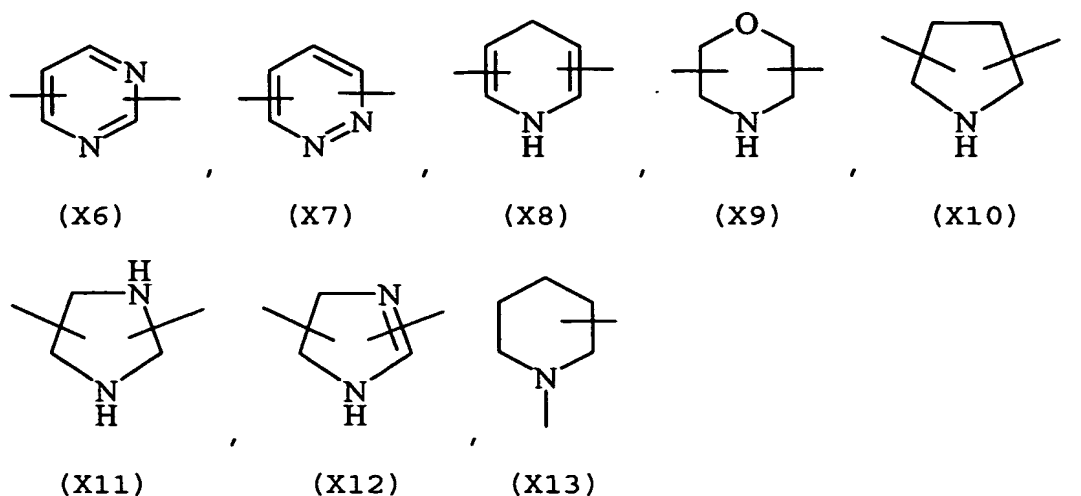
wherein R_1 - R_{12} are the same or different and independently are hydrogen, straight or branched C_1 - C_6 alkyl, optionally substituted with aryl;

- 10 m , n , o , q , r and s are each independently an integer from 0 to 6, and p is 0 or 1, and

X is O , S , SO , SO_2 , NR_{13} or PR_{13} , in which R_{13} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, or X is selected from the group consisting of:

- saturated or unsaturated C_5 - C_7 cycloalkylene, optionally substituted with one or more straight or branched C_1 - C_3 alkyl groups;
- arylene, optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, straight or branched alkyl groups containing from 1 to 4 carbon atoms, or a straight or branched C_1 - C_3 perfluoroalkyl;
- a 5 or 6 member saturated, unsaturated, or aromatic heterocyclic ring selected from





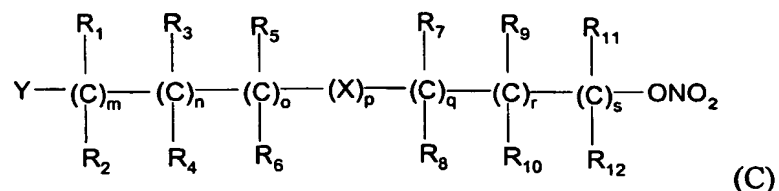
5 and R is the radical of a pharmacologically active compound selected from the formulae (I)-(XXXI) listed in the specification or the ferulic acid radical of formula (XXXII), wherein R' is H, or a group R(CO)-, in which R is as above defined,

10 said process comprising reacting a compound of formula (B)



wherein R is as above defined and Z is hydrogen or a cation selected from

Li+, Na+, K+, Ca++, Mg++, tetralkylammonium,
 15 tetralkylphosphonium,
 with a compound of formula (C)



wherein R₁-R₁₂ and m,n,o,p,q,r,s are as defined above and Y is selected from

- 20 - a Br, Cl, I;
 - -BF₄, -SbF₆, FSO₃-, R_ASO₃-, in which R_A is a straight or branched C₁-C₆ alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms, or a C₁-C₆ alkylaryl;

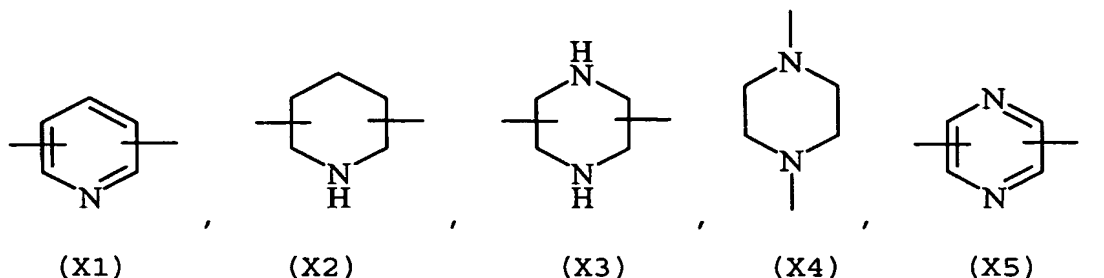
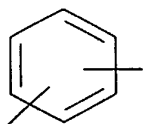
- $R_B\text{COO}^-$, wherein R_B is straight or branched C_1 - C_6 alkyl, aryl, optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or NO_2 groups, C_4 - C_{10} heteroaryl and containing one or more heteroatoms, which are the same or different, selected from nitrogen, oxygen sulfur or phosphorus;
- aryloxy optionally substituted with one or more halogen atoms or NO_2 groups, or heteroaryloxy.

2. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to claim 1 wherein:

the substituents R_1 - R_{12} are the same or different and independently are hydrogen or straight or branched C_1 - C_3 alkyl,

m , n , o , p , q , r and s are as defined above,

X is O, S or



3. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to claim 1 or 2 wherein R_1 - R_4 and R_7 - R_{10} are hydrogens, m , n , q , r , are 1, o and s are 0, p is 0 or 1, and X is O or S.

4. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein R is the the ferulic acid radical of formula (XXXII) as reported

in the specification, wherein R' is H, or a group R(CO)-, in which R is the radical of a pharmacologically active compound selected from the formulae (I)-(XXXI) listed in the specification.

5

5. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to claim 4 wherein in the compound of formula (B) Y is Br.

10 6. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of Br, Cl, I, $-\text{BF}_4$, $-\text{SbF}_6$, ClO_4^- , FSO_3^- , CF_3SO_3^- , $\text{C}_2\text{F}_5\text{SO}_3^-$, $\text{C}_3\text{F}_7\text{SO}_3^-$, $\text{C}_4\text{F}_9\text{SO}_3^-$, $p\text{-CH}_3\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_3^-$.

15

7. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein the reaction is performed in an organic solvent selected from acetone, tetrahydrofurane, dimethylformamide, N-methylpyrrolidone, sulfolane and acetonitrile.

20

8. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according to anyone of the claims 1-4 wherein the reaction is performed in a biphasic system comprising an aprotic dipolar solvent selected from toluene, chlorobenzene, nitrobenzene, tert-butyl-methylether and a water solution wherein the organic solution contains (C) and the water solution contain an alkaline metal salt of (B), in presence of a phase transfer catalyst.

25

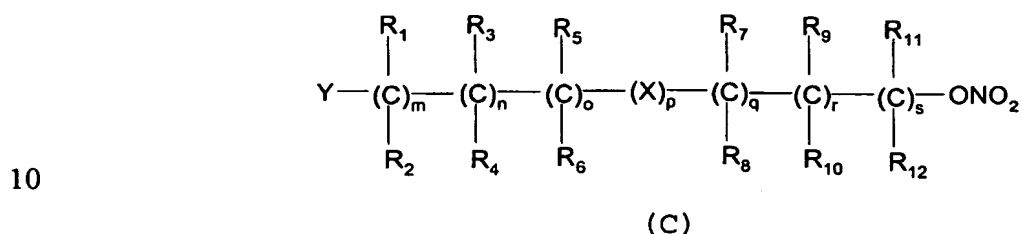
30

9. A process for preparing a compound of formula A according anyone of the preceding claims wherein the

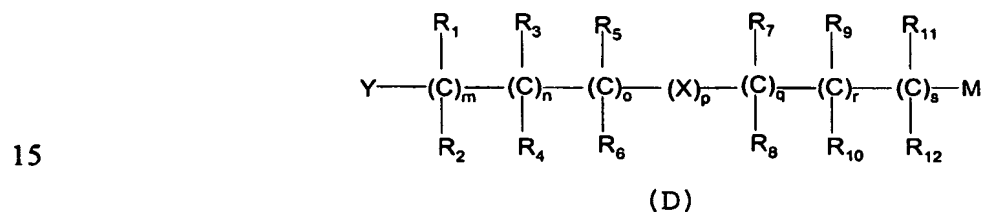
reaction is performed at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 100°C.

10. A process for preparing a compound of formula A
 5 according to anyone of the preceding claims wherein the compounds of formula B and C are reacted at a (B)/(C) molar ratio of 2-0.5.

11. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C)



wherein R_1 - R_{12} , m , n , o , p , q , r , s , X , Y are as defined in claim 1-4, comprising reacting a compound of the following formula (D)



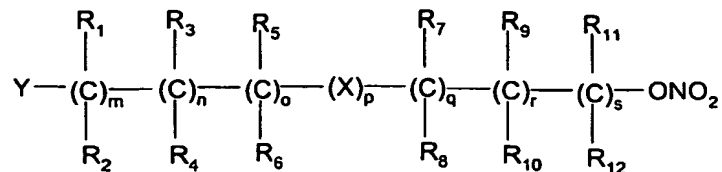
wherein M is OH and the other substituents and indices are as above defined, with a nitrating agent.

12. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 20 according to claim 11 wherein the nitrating agent is sulfonitric mixture.

13. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 according to claim 11-12 wherein the compound (D) and the nitrating agent are at molar ratio of 2-0.5.

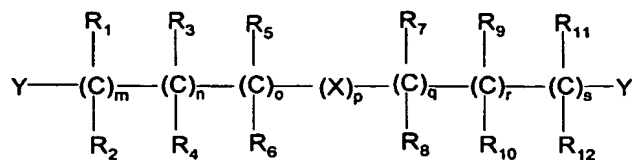
25 14. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 according to claim 11-13 wherein the reaction is performed at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 100°C.

15. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C)



(C)

wherein R_1 - R_{12} , m , n , o , p , q , r , s , X , Y are as defined in
 5 claim 1-4, comprising reacting a compound of the following
 formula (E),



(E)

wherein R_1 - R_{12} , m , n , o , p , q , r , s , X , Y are as defined
 10 above with a nitrating agent.

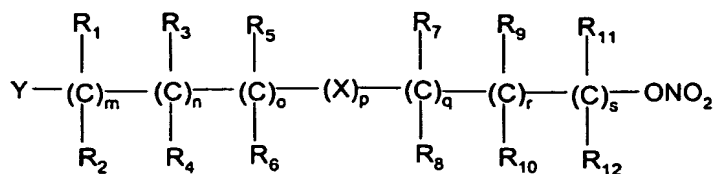
16. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 according to claim 15 wherein the nitrating agent is
 selected from alkaline metal nitrates, quaternary ammonium
 15 nitrates, quaternary phosphonium nitrates, $AgNO_3$, $Zn(NO_3)_2$
 $6H_2O$.

17. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 according to claims 15-16 wherein the compound (E) and the
 20 nitrating agent are at molar ratio of 20:2.

18. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 according to claims 15-17 wherein the reaction is performed
 at a temperature ranging from $0^\circ C$ to $100^\circ C$.

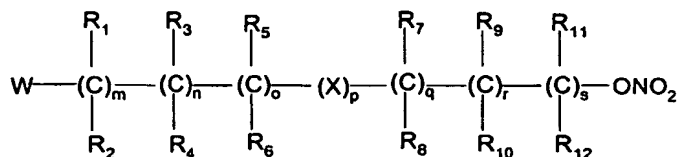
25

19. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C)



(C)

wherein R_1 - R_{12} , m , n , o , p , q , r , s , X , Y are as defined in claim 1-4, comprising reacting a compound of the following
 5 formula (F),



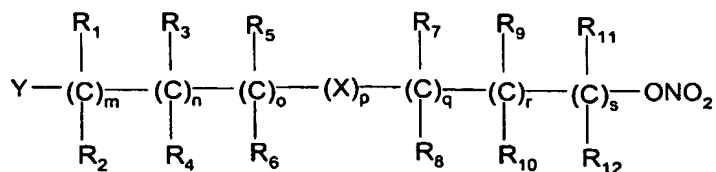
(F)

wherein R_1 - R_{12} , m , n , o , p , q , r , s , X , are as defined above, W is OH or halogen, with a compound selected from
 10 alkanoylsulfonylchloride and trifluoromethansulfonic anhydride when W is OH or with $AgSbF_6$, $AgBF_4$, $AgClO_4$, CF_3SO_3Ag , $AgSO_3CH_3$, $CH_3C_6H_4SO_3Ag$ when W is halogen.

20. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C)
 15 according to claim 19 wherein the compound (F) and the nitrating agent are at molar ratio of 2:0.5.

21. A process for preparing a compound of formula (C).
 according to claims 19-20 wherein the reaction is performed
 20 at a temperature ranging from 0°C to 100°C.

22. A compound of formula (C)



(C)

wherein R_1 - R_{12} , m, n, o, p, q, r, s, X, Y are as defined in claim 1-4 with the proviso that Y is not halogen.

23. Use of nitrooxyalkyl derivatives of general formula (C)
5 according to claim 20 as intermediates for preparing
carboxylic acid nitrooxyalkyl esters of formula (A)
according to claim 1-4.